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A N
A P P E A L
TO THE
J O C K E Y C L U B ;

O R,

A true NARRATIVE of the late AFFAIR,

B E T W E E N

MR. FITZ -GERALD and MR. WALKER.

B Y

George Robert Fitz -Gerald, Esq.

*Qui me commōrit, melius non tangere clamo,
Flebit, & in SIGNIS totā cantabitur Urbe*

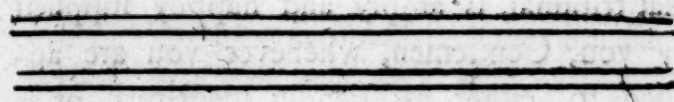
HOR.

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A N

A P P E A L

TO THE

J O C K E Y C L U B.

GENTLEMEN,

THE power and jurisdiction of the constable of England, who had cognizance of all duels, feats of chivalry, and points of honour, hath long since run into desuetude, if I am rightly informed. Yet no Englishman of birth rank, or fortune, can have the least reason to regret the dormancy and inertion of that *Court-Militaire*, since every adjustment of doubtful cases, every reparation of honour, and every species of justice that could be expected from

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that

that tribunal, is amply and happily supplied by you, Gentlemen, whenever you are applied to, either as friendly mediators, or as candid arbitrators. Though you have neither the ostentatious parade, nor the technical jargon, nor yet the high sounding name of a court of law, yet your decisions have always given the highest satisfaction to your suitors, because they always have been grounded on the observance of the strictest impartiality, and governed by the nicest rules of honour.

Affured of a fair and equitable adjudication at your hands, whether it be in my favor or not, I find myself emboldened to lay before you Gentlemen, a case in which I am one of the principal actors. Nor should I have thus presumed to have obtruded my private concerns upon your notice and attention, did they not in a great degree affect every member of your honourable society as well as myself.

The case hath already made much noise in the polite world, but the real facts have been either industriously misrepresented, or carefully concealed. And as you have hitherto
heard

heard nothing but falsehood, I cannot but flatter myself, you will now be pleased to hear the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Mr. Walker, whom you all know by the *soi-disant soubriquet*, or nick-name of "DAI-
"SEY Walker" stood indebted to me to the amount of £.3000 and upwards. His creditors were numerous, but they were most of them men of Fortune. On a sudden, this short-lived comet of the turf disappeared. After some months absence from Town, he returned to England in order, as he said, to make, or rather patch up his affairs. Among his other creditors, he applied to me.

His tale was pitiful, it was wondrous pitiful. In short, the sum total of it was, that this man, who in the transient moment of his full-blown prosperity, had always comported himself with an over-bearing haughtiness and insolent carriage to such gentlemen as had experienced the misfortune of being his debtors, was now as he said a ruined man himself, and in his turn felt, or affected to feel the indignity as well as the humiliation of adverse fortune.

4 . AN APPEAL TO

To tell me he was a ruined man, was giving me no other intelligence than what had already been bruited at Newmarket, upon the Royal Exchange, and in short at every public place of resort throughout the whole Kingdom. But it required a greater share of credulity than has fallen to my lot to give the least credit either to common report or to his own word. By my various connections in money-matters and with monied men, I had very cogent reasons to suspect, that Mr. Walker's ruin, of which he was himself now become the trumpeter, was premature, if not altogether false. That I was not mistaken in the opinion I had formed of the real and true state of his finances, the sequel of this narrative will give a proof little short, I think, of mathematical demonstration.

Thus, Gentlemen, though prepossessed, and as you see, not in Mr. Walker's favor, I heard his proposals with all possible attention and politeness. I must do him the justice to say in his behalf, that he over and over again acknowledged the demand I had upon him was a JUST DEMAND, and SUCH a debt as he held himself

himself bounden by every principle of honour and equity to discharge to the utmost farthing; assuring me that nothing gave him any real pain or the least concern, but that he was in a state of absolute insolvency, and not able to pay it, as it became a gentleman to do. He therefore requested, begged, and entreated, that I would accept of such composition, as his other creditors had already agreed to accept, since upon *his honour* it was ALL he had in his power to offer.

This composition amounted to a trifle more than *three shillings* in the pound. I gave Mr. Walker for answer, that in all cases of BANKRUPTCY and INSOLVENCY it was both usual and equitable for the debtor to lay before his creditors a TRUE STATE of his affairs, adding, that if he had already taken this preliminary and necessary step, I should then not have any the least objection to come into any accomodation that his finances would *bond fide* admit of, even though it were much lower than the composition now offered. My intentions, I said, never were to distress any "*man of honour*," and if Mr. Walker acted upon that principle, the
matter

matter in agitation between us, might easily and very amicably be adjusted in a very few minutes to our mutual satisfaction. During the short time it took me up in mentioning that dreadful phrase "*a man of honour*," I steadfastly rivited *my* eyes upon *his*, as if through that aperture I meant to penetrate into his inmost soul, and see what was lurking there.

The language of the eye is intuitively expressive: it is the only universal language of mankind. Mr. Walker was not at a loss to comprehend my meaning. For his answer to me, was, that he meant to act upon the strictest principles of HONOUR; that as for laying a true state and valuation of his effects before his creditors, he was precluded from either doing them or himself that justice at present, as his title-deeds were in the hands of his attornies and lawyers: but that I might be assured and depend upon it, the composition he now offered, was the very-utmost satisfaction his embarrassed and complicatedly-involved circumstances would allow him to make, and that if I would not come into the general proposal, he had only this alternative left, either to be the
suicide

THE JOCKEY CLUB. 7

suicide of his own miserable life here at home, or to seek the acquisition of a new fortune on the inhospitable coast of Coromandel, or within the peaceable walls of Calcutta.

Gentlemen, on this assurance and representation of things, from Mr. Walker's OWN LIPS, I was induced to believe him "A MAN OF HONOUR," and that the various reports I had heard of his still being in very affluent circumstances, were nothing but the common rumour of the day, and had more of invention than of veracity for their foundation. Accordingly, I subscribed to his terms of accommodation. And I did so, the more readily, because I just that moment recalled to my mind, that excellent law of the TWELVE TABLES, in which it is enacted, "that every man shall make good what he promises or assures BY WORD OF MOUTH, under the penalty of double damages for denying it." True, indeed, it is, this conscientious law is of Roman institution. But, let it be remembered too, that it was instituted when *Rome* was *ROME*, or in other words, "when a *Roman* did not dare to hazard the most artfully-covered fraud,

fraud, or a *treachery*, even though he knew it impossible ever to be discovered. Besides, Gentlemen, I am now addressing myself to you, “*as a Council of Honour*,” with whom I am sure this Roman institution will have the same weight, as if it had originated in Great-Britain, because it is founded not upon the *local*, but upon the *universal* principles of honour, conscience, and good-faith.”

Having thus laid before your most honourable society the grounds on which I consented to Mr. Walker’s proposal, I must crave your indulgence to hear a few remarks upon his subsequent conduct.

Scarcely had I returned him the *written* acknowledgment of his debt, when this ruined, this insolvent, this bankrupt gentleman was publicly seen to launch out a-fresh upon the faithless ocean of *deep-play*, and upon a much broader bottom than he had ever done before. *Here*, according to the informations I had received, he had a match for a thousand guineas. *There*, he had a match for two thousand. And in a third place, another match for five thousand

and guineas, and all of them out-standing, at one and the same period of time.

In this zenith of his second course of dissipation, I met him at Ascot races. I reminded him, he had given me "*his word of honour*" when I entered into an accommodation with him, that he was then an irrecoverably ruined man, and that I should upon no other consideration whatsoever have departed from one single shilling of my just demand.

His answer was, that he did not pretend to deny the justice or validity of my debt (for how could he have AVERRED against his own hand-writing?) but his excuse or apology for non-payment was couched in these very words: "Sir, I still assure you, and I repeat again "upon my honour," "that I am a "ruined man to all intents and purposes, and "that I am now making one desperate push, "neck or nothing, to retrieve, if possible, the "many thousands I have lost before."

After such an eclclaircissement from Mr. Walker's own lips, what course could I, with any

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degree

degree of prudence, take with him? If he spoke the truth, gentlemen, would it not have been unpardonably dishonourable in me, had I remained silent, whilst I saw him lay his betts by hundreds, and five hundreds, and that too with my particular friends, and intimate acquaintance? If on the contrary, he told me a LYE, was it not a proper time, when he was actually, or seemingly flush and profuse of cash, to demand a total liquidation, or at least a farther partial discharge of that debt, which in honour he still owed me?

In dilemmas of this nature, there is something within us, I know not by what denomination to call it, that generally direct us to take the better part. Socrates, I think, has called this unkown impulse of nature, by the name of his "*Good Genius*." And if the wisest man of all antiquity frequently and implicitly acted under the guidance and first impresson of this invifible and oracular agent, I see no reason why I should be ashamed to have copied so illustrious an example. I am sure, with regard to my own worldly affairs, I have always found this Socratic tenet of trusting
one's

one's Good Genius preferable to any after-thought whatever. Thus instructed by my internal monitor, I called Mr. Walker very seriously to account. I told him that he was acting the part of a very dishonest man, and peremptorily insisted, that if he had not money to answer the bets he now laid, he should absolutely and instantly make a public declaration of his insolvency; or that if he was in cash, and able to pay in case he lost them, the heavy debt he in honour still owed me, claimed priority of payment.

Mr. Walker, elated and grown haughty, the natural consequence of an empty head and a full purse, held himself above all reproof, advice, or correction. By an insolent supercilious sneer, he gave me to understand, that I might look for my money where I could find it. Such a breach of delicacy and good manners, and that too from a man who but a few moments before had acknowledged himself still indebted to me to the amount of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS Sterling, required more stoicism than I own I am master of, to suffer it to pass unnoticed, or

unreproved. Accordingly I told him, I was not accustomed to such unwarrantable treatment, and if he offered me the like affront, I should be tempted to cane him within an inch of his life. And I would most assuredly do it now, if he would promise not to shelter himself pitifully under the wing of the law. His reply was, that he would take no such advantage, nor take any such pitiful shelter, as I was pleased to call it, adding, that I might put my threats into execution, as soon as I thought fit, since he was fully prepared for the worst that could befall him.

I took, and I apprehend myself justified, in taking this home reply for an absolute defiance; so, without any more to do, I gave him a swinging stroke with my cane, just a-cross his mouth.

You expect, Gentlemen, I should here give you a lamentable detail of some desperate, bloody ren-contre that must immediately have ensued upon my publicly *canning* Mr. Walker. Gentlemen, no such thing happened, no blow was returned. On the contrary, my doughty antagonist in buckram very pacifically put up with

with the affront, courageously clapped spurs to his horse, galloped off the course full speed, *ventre à terre*, to London, and left me on the plains of Ascot the triumphant victor of the day.

In about a week's time, I went to town myself. On my arrival, Captain Gwynn, who had taken upon him the friendly office of being Mr. Walker's second, paid me a visit at my house in Portman-square. He was charged with a message, which he delivered to me with all those expressions of concern which are usual on such occasions. He then desired I would also appoint my SECOND and fix upon some time and place for our next meeting.

Engagements of this kind, the sooner they are dispatched, the better it is on many accounts. I therefore proposed to lose no time, and fixed upon that same evening for finishing the business.

All parties were punctual to time and place. Before we met, I had informed my SECOND that I would give Mr. Walker all the fair play imaginable, and that he should fire *first*. The distance being agreed on, I received my antagonist's

nist's first shot, unhit, and consequently unhurt. By the law of arms, I was intitled immediately to fire at Mr. Walker. But instead of returning his shot, I told him, I thought it was now a proper time to ask his pardon for the blow I had given him at Ascot races. I acknowledged I was much, very much to blame. That no person could censure me more, than I censured myself for it. That I would make any other concession in my power. That I allowed, no gentleman is justifiable in striking another, be the provocation ever so great. But I had thought myself very ill-used; that my passion had gotten the better of my reason, and in that momentary paroxysm of irrationality, I had acted disrespectfully, inconsiderately, unwarrantably. That I was ashamed and sorry for the rash offence I had committed, and if that was not reparation sufficient, I again asked his pardon, and hoped that would satisfy him. Mr. Walker answered——he was thoroughly satisfied.

It is proper, Gentlemen, I should inform you, that Mr. Walker's SECOND here interposed, and asked me, if I would give him leave to mention in public the concessions I thus made.

My

My answer, was,——yes, Sir, by all means, and I request it as a particular favor that you will. For I shall be happy to have the whole world know, if in an unguarded moment I have done an injury, I am proud, in the calmer hour of reflection, to make every concession and satisfaction that a gentleman can or ought to do.

The business of the blow was thus amicably settled, and finally adjusted. But I had still the old crow to pluck over again with Mr. Walker; and as I had given him entire satisfaction for the blow, it was but common justice, that he in return should give me some sort of satisfaction for the money he was still indebted, and superabundantly *enabled* to pay me. I accordingly pressed the payment with earnestness, and firmness, but with great coolness of temper. Mr. Walker had not so much as a single word to say in his own defence.

There is certainly a sort of wisdom in silence, when every word that might have been uttered would only have made BAD WORSE. Although Mr. Walker availed himself of this species of wisdom, his SECOND was not altogether so
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prudent. For Captain Gwynn not knowing the real grounds on which I had agreed to compromise the debt, took upon him to tell me, he thought Mr. Walker did not owe me a shilling. This declaration seemed to me, not only ill-timed and unpolite, but rather officious. I therefore desired he would explain himself, which he did, by assuring me, he had all along been given to understand, that I had absolutely, fully, and unconditionally, accepted of a certain sum, in lieu, and full discharge of my whole demand.

You see, Gentlemen, it now became indispensibly necessary for me to undeceive Captain Gwynn. I accordingly told him I never should have thought of, nor ever would have subscribed any composition at all, had not Mr. Walker repeatedly assured me *upon his word of honour*, that he was a ruined man in the most extensive sense of that phrase, and that he was utterly unable to make any better composition. It was on these terms, and on these only, that I listened to an accommodation, I said, with Mr. Walker. But having been since fully convinced, that what he equivocatingly asserted

serted to me *on his word of honour* is an absolute notorious falshood, and nothing but a pitiful, dirty contrivance to circumvent and defraud me as well as his other creditors, I insisted he should either pay me my demand, or that he should give me that satisfaction which one gentleman usually gives another, in cases of a similar nature.

But to shew Mr. Walker that I did not make this demand out of any malice, or ill-blood, and that I was actuated by principles of quite a different complexion, I offered even now, in the presence of his friend and SECOND, Captain Gwynn, to give a full and irreversable release of all debts and demands of what nature soever, from the beginning of our acquaintance to the present moment, on condition, he in his turn, would give me a clear and undeniable proof that his finances were not, at that very moment, in a much better situation than ever they had been, during any part of his life.

This proposition appeared so just and equitable in itself, and argued, I flattered myself,

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such a signal proof of my candour, generosity, and disinterestedness, that I thought there could not have been found a single gentleman in the whole kingdom, who could have started any the most distant objection against it.

I was, however, somewhat mistaken. For Captain Gywnn, tho' he could not but highly approve of the moral rectitude and fairness of the proposal, yet he observed, and rather *jesuitically*, in my opinion, that although Mr. Walker most indisputably was now in very affluent circumstances, yet he *might* have been quite the reverse at the time he offered to compound the debt, and that his present enviable situation *might* have been the result of a lucky run of fortune.

My answer was, that whether Mr. Walker's splendid opulence arose from a favorable run of good-luck, or whether from any other cause, he was still equally bounden, as a gentleman, and man of honour, to pay his debts of honour, whenever fortune, or any other event had put it in his power. But as all men are fallible, and no one is deemed a proper judge in his own
affairs

affairs of interest, I would not pretend Mr. Walker should be tied down by any decision I should make ; I would therefore propose to leave the matter in dispute between us to the arbitration of his SECOND and mine, and if they differed in opinion, then to the umpirage of any third gentleman they should nominate and appoint.

It is incumbent on me to do Mr. Walker the justice to say that he most cordially assented and agreed to this proposal. But scarcely had he expressed his consent to this amicable adjustment of the affair, when Captain Gwynn instantly bawled out that he did not come there to be a referee, but only to be a second in the *fighting way*, as he termed it, and added he was very certain Mr. Walker neither meant nor should leave the affair in question to the determination of any person or persons whatsoever.

On this abrupt, and in my opinion an over officious and unwarrantable declaration, I addressed Mr. Walker myself. I told him, it was the farthest from my intention or meaning to

take any undue advantage of the assent he had already given; if he found any reason for altering his mind, he was at full liberty now to do it; but if he still continued in the same way of thinking, I then, for fear of any mistake or misunderstanding, requested he would repeat his assent, and as nearly as he could in his former words.

Mr. Walker replied, having now no will of his own, he should be governed entirely as Captain Gwynn should direct or desire him.

Thus perceiving there was no possibility of terminating the affair amicably, I told Mr. Walker I was extremely sorry, that he would constrain me against my inclination to do myself justice by an appeal to arms, that however he was answerable for the fatal consequences, if any such should happen, adding, that I had done every thing in my power to prevent bloodshed, and before I could even now prevail upon myself to fire, I once more requested he would re-consider the affair.

This

This friendly and well-timed advice of mine, I really believe would have had a very happy effect, had not Captain Gwynn immediately hallowed out, "Mr. Walker shall hear of no re-considerations, he shall come into no other terms, and that he was ready to receive my fire, whenever I should think proper to give it."

You see, gentlemen, there was now no longer any room for negotiation, all parleying was at an end, and the *ultima ratio* was the only reason that could now obtain an audience. I therefore took my aim. My intention was to have disabled Mr. Walker in the right shoulder, and at the same time not to give him a mortal wound. I fired——and hit him to a hair. His second pistol, which was ready charged, primed, and cocked, instantly dropped out of his hand, and I was apprehensive I had mortally wounded him. I ran up to him with great concern. I saw his right arm was very much swollen. His *particular good* friend Mr. T——ns, the surgeon, was in the field along with us. His assistance was immediately called in. On perceiving Mr. Walker turn pale,
and

and his arm much inflated, that skilful surgeon very judiciously and humanely apprized him of the immediate necessity of examining his arm, by giving him to understand, that the least delay in gun-shot wounds is very often attended with the most dangerous consequences: and therefore earnestly pressed him not to lose a moment in pulling off his clothes.

Instead of listening to the advice of his *very good friend*, Mr. T——ns, what do you think, Gentlemen, was his reason for not stripping off his clothes? to be sure he had *coat upon coat*, but what signifies that, when a man's life is in imminent danger. The first coat is as easily pulled off as the second, and so on, *ad infinitum*. But this *valiant* man, who could encounter a *shower* of pistol-shot, had an insurmountable objection to stripping in the open air, because truly "it rained—and he should be wet."—I readily acknowledge there was a little mizzling rain, but it was really so trifling that it did not even prevent either of our pistols from firing.

So uncommon a reluctance against unstripping, immediately suggested to me, that Mr.
Walker

Walker had been guilty of some foul play or other; I was determined to be convinced by ocular demonstration. Accordingly the surgeon and I, both of us, carefully examined that part of his *surcoat*-sleeve, where the ball was supposed to have entered. On our nicest inspection, so far from finding any hole, we could not perceive the ball had even grazed a single hair, or that a single atom had been singed, or in the least displaced.

My suggestions were now confirmed into absolute conviction. And altho' *Daisy* Walker might have received a slight contusion in his arm, yet I insisted he was still in a capacity to continue the engagement: in short, I insisted he should not leave the business unfinished. Poor *Daisy* had no such Intention, it was the very farthest from his thoughts; and instead of firing a second pistol, exerted all his rhetorical abilities to persuade me his arm was so benumbed, that it was impossible for him to lift it up to his head.

For God-sake, then said I, my dear sir, why will you not have it instantly examined, and proper

per care immediately taken of it? no—he would not unstrip—it rained—and he should be wet.

Impatient to brook any longer so childish and effeminate an answer, I told him, it was false, it was nothing but a sham, and a dastardly contrivance to get himself off in a whole skin; that he dared not unstrip, for I was sure he was PAPERED from head to foot; and he might go about his business like a PAPERED SCOUNDREL as he was, for the present; but the very first moment I should hear of his *terrible* bruise being thoroughly cured, I should absolutely insist upon his closing *this* account, so that I should have the satisfaction of making him close at least *one* account with me, if I could not make him do the other.

Objects of the greatest magnitude, appear very diminutive, when placed at a very great distance. It is the same thing with danger. If you speak of it as an event, which must unavoidably happen in a month or two, it gives no present alarm; it creates no present fear. This was just the case with my *Daisy* of a hero: the mentioning of a demilée at a *future* day, excited

cited in him not the least idea of horror, though if I had but barely clapped my hand upon my sword, it would instantly have made him shudder and tremble like an aspen leaf.

It is perhaps a singular happiness in the composition of a coward, that he neither feels past or future pain; and that he has no more apprehension or sensation of fear that is actually over, than of fear that is inevitably to ensue. It is on this hypothesis alone, that I can account for the answer this shadow of a man found himself emboldened to give me, which was "that I should certainly hear from him, the moment he was recovered."

Though I no more expected to hear from this truly contemptible wretch, than I did from his pacific holiness the pope of Rome, yet I thought it would be decent to wait a week or a fortnight, before I should jogg his tardy memory; but in the interim having understood that my butterfly was now flying abroad every day in his phaeton as usual, I desired my *second*, Captain B——y, to wait upon him in due form. The Captain most kindly undertook this friendly commission, and accordingly

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went to Walker's house—but—the Daifey was not at home—a second visit was paid—but the Daifey was not within—a third visit succeeded—but the Daifey—was now not visible.— At last, Captain B——y watched a fit opportunity, caught my invisible, nullibi quarian gentleman going into his own house, and very fortunately would not then be denied admittance.

Captain B——y very politely delivered my first message, which was to acquaint Walker, that I was much concerned he should force me to a final determination which could not but be very disagreeable to him: that not only my property which he had defrauded me of, but my honour too was now at stake, and that as he had been allowed sufficient time to revolve the whole matter in his own mind, I would now, though he merited no such attention, leave the decision either to the Jockey Club, or even to any one gentleman of character he should nominate and appoint.—

His answer was, he had already signalised himself in this affair as a man of courage, that

no

no one could impute to him the most distant suspicion of cowardice, and that he should give himself no farther concern about the matter, let the world say or think whatsoever they pleased about it, adding, *pour faire bonne bouche* he would upon no consideration whatsoever submit the decision either to the Jockey Club, or any other person in the world.

Can there be, Gentlemen, a clearer self-condemnation than this? or is there, in the whole range of ethics, a position so universally assented to, as that excellent dictum of Publius Syrus.

Fatetur Facinus is, qui JUDICIUM FUGIT.

I need not observe to gentlemen of your enlarged knowledge, and deep erudition, that this golden verse hath stood the test and received the sanction and approbation of seventeen hundred years, and that as an incontestable proof of its extensive and intrinsic merit hath been adopted into our own courts of equity, where it stands with undiminished lustre upon an adamantine, irrefragable, indistructable basis.

Captain B——y, on this answer, thought it high time to deliver my second message, which was to tell Walker, that Mr. Fitz-Gerald entertained quite a different opinion of his prowess, and that he looked upon him as a cheat, a rascal, and poltron, and that he never would have mustered up resolution enough to have received Mr. Fitz-Gerald's first fire, had he not been impenetrably and invulnerably *papered* from shoulder to toe.

These choak-pear words, so impossible for any man of honour to have swallowed, were gulped down by this rank coward without even one wry face: in short they made not the least impression either upon his head or his heart, and thus constrained Captain B——y to deliver my third and last message, which was to acquaint him, that if he suffered himself to be called a cheat and a poltron, Mr. Fitz-Gerald would *can* him, the first public place he met him in, the King's Palace, places of worship, and courts of judicature excepted. Captain B——y then observed to him, that I should now be justified in caning him, though I was not *before*. For he would now deservedly be
caned

caned, not as a gentleman, for he had forfeited that character, but he would be caned as a cheat, a rascal, and a poltron, and that every man of honour would be obliged and indebted to Mr. Fitz-Gerald for having driven so dishonest, unfair, and perfidious a *deep-player* from the society and intercourse of all real Gentlemen.

The scoundrel had shame enough, just to pause one moment, but having recollected there was no real danger actually *present*, made answer, “ that he had given the world sufficient proof of his courage, that as to the threats of caning, he was perfectly easy, adding, that he should not throw himself into the way of danger; but he hoped he should always act becoming a gentleman, whensoever, wheresoever, and by whomsoever he might be attacked.

Captain B——y replied, that to be sure it was very prudent in him, not wantonly to throw himself into the arms of danger, merely for the pleasure or chance of getting out of it: but as he supposed, from what Walker had
said

said, that he did not intend to lock himself up again in his own house, he begged he (Walker) would be so indulgent to tell him, where and when Mr. Fitz-Gerald might meet him, as it were, by accident, that evening, or the next morning, or the day following that, or any other day in the year. This was a cutting irony, and extorted even from the callous Walker himself, this reply, namely, "that he would neither fix any time, nor any place, but he should go about his business and his pleasures as usual, and that Mr. Fitz-Gerald was no stranger either to his private haunts, or to his places of public resort."

Satisfied with this answer, Captain B——y took leave, and instantly returned to my house, in order to give me an accurate detail of the result of his commission. We both concluded, that my timorous antagonist had been heartened-up, and would that evening, or the day following, at farthest, give me an opportunity of a second meeting.

Day after day; week after week; nay, month after month, I went about from place to place

place, hunting after, and enquiring of every person I met, what was become of *Daisy Walker*? was he in England? was he gone abroad? was he alive or dead? and a thousand other such-like phrases of enquiry, as one generally and familiarly asks the first acquaintance one meets in the streets. No news, no intelligence, no tidings, either good or bad, could be learnt; not one of his most intimate confederates knew where he was, or could answer the simple question, whether he was dead or alive.

However, about two months ago, I was taken very ill of a fever, which confined me to my bed. Walker had been confined too, not indeed to his bed, but carefully secreted in his own house, for a period of full *six months*. My illness thus afforded him a fine and safe opportunity of breathing the fresh air once more at large; so favourable an occasion was not to be lost; accordingly remembering the old adage,

—— *post est occasio calva*,

he seized father time by the fore-lock, and after a *semestral*, total eclipse, once more burst forth with fresh splendor, and was not only publicly, but *unblushingly* seen at the Pantheon,

with

with a tremendous long sword under one arm, and the beautiful lady A-----r, under the other.

Early next morning I was informed of the brilliant, and affectedly non-chalant appearance he had made the over-night. I own it nettled me to the quick, to hear that my fair countrywomen, and in particular that a lady of quality, so transcendantly amiable and lovely as Lady A-----r is, should publicly shew those marks of distinction to a blasted cheat, and a notorious poltron, which ought to be discriminately, and characteristically reserved by the fair-sex, as the most enviable and glorious rewards for men of known honour, tried courage, and celebrated literature. This intelligence, however, had one good effect, for it gave a sudden turn to my illness; and finding myself able to get up, I muffled on my cloaths, and drove away immediately to the house of this consummate scoundrel.

Some how or other he had gotten wind of my intended visit, so it is needless to say that he again disappeared, and from that moment to this, nobody knows whether he hath shut him-

himself up as a prisoner in his own house, or whether he hath taken another trip to France under another fictitious name.

It hath been reported by historians of good credit, as a fact, that two suns were actually seen at one and the same time at Thebes. Doubtless, this is an extraordinary phenomenon in the natural world, but *Daisey Walker* seems determined to make it as great a one in the polite world for him and me to be seen at one and the same time, either in Hyde Park or behind Mountague House, or in any other part of England.

Thus, gentlemen, I have laid before you a true and faithful narrative of my affair with *Daisey Walker*: I am not conscious to myself that I have aught exaggerated, or aught set down in malice; had I been inclined to have opened a vein of satire, I could have magnified this little pamphlet into a folio volume with this fellow's unfair dealings with other persons: but I have cautiously confined my remarks to that part of his knavish and dastardly conduct, which particularly concerns my

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now

own property, my own honour, and my own justification. To mention to you either in what particular instances, and for what particular purposes this affair hath been misrepresented, must necessarily appear to you from a comparative view of those representations, and the true statement of facts as they are faithfully set forth in this narrative. For truth is not only the index of its own rectitude, but it is the strait line, which mathematically proves the crookedness and obliquity of falshood. I flatter myself, that my conduct, upon the whole, will meet with your approbation. If I have erred, it is unwillingly and unintentionally. For, from my first starting into public life, it has been my constant study to form my character upon the great out-line of TRUE COURAGE, which, in my humble opinion, includes in it many other subordinate virtues or good qualities, and in particular that of moderation, which always listens to justice, equity, and to reason. Poets, naturalists, and historians, have deservedly celebrated the lion's COURAGE, but we never hear of their speaking one single word of his justice, his equity, or his reason. Hence I conclude,
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It is in *moderation* alone, that we can draw the distinct line between a *manly* and a *brutal* courage. Appealing then to you, Gentlemen, as a "*Council of Honour*," I am proud to own, that I have formed my character upon the line of manly, not of brutal courage. At the same time I must candidly confess, that in the ebullition of youth, when the passions are indomitable, and the judgement not ripened into full maturity, it is next to an impossibility for us always to carry into *practice*, those virtues which appear so easy and beautiful *in theory*. The last troublesome affair we have been engaged in, is only the disciple of the preceding one; there is always something still to be learnt, always something we could have wished undone, before we arrive to any degree of perfection. I do not therefore presume to exculpate myself for the error I rashly committed in striking Mr. Walker with my cane, BEFORE I knew him to be a coward, and I should hold myself utterly inexcusable, had he not himself, in some measure, invited the affront, by his previously declaring he should not shelter himself under the wing of the law. The provocation he gave me certainly was very great. TWO THOUSAND

FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS sterling is no trifling sum in itself; and then to be robbed and defrauded of it under the specious pretence and false colours of his *word of honour*, I hope will admit of some plea for the excess I was then unguardedly hurried into. *Inter bonos bené agier*, is a maxim we all know; but it is difficult to say upon all occasions, how we are to act with bad and infamous men; the method however, I have pre-determined to take, is that of driving this bankrupt of honour, this *papier-maché* poltron from all future intercourse with the polite world; I think it is a duty I owe the public as well as myself; for if on catching a petty-larceny catif in the act of picking our pockets, we be authorised by the common-law custom of this Realm, instantly to duck the *little* rascal over head and ears in the first horse-pond we can find; surely, by a parity of reason, the *gigantic* rascal whom we have defeated, dexterously picking our pockets of £.2500 deserves the same or a similar mode of punishment, especially if he will make no restitution, nor give us any satisfaction whatever. However, Gentlemen, I am not so bigoted to my own opinions; but that I shall

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shall always pay the highest respect, and most deferential submission to your riper years, to your superior wisdom, and to your impartial—ARBITRATION.

F I N I S.

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such valuable information to their riders
and to your own wisdom, and to your
important - Aristocracy.

Yours truly
J. M. S.